

Message Text

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60

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 ACDA-05 /061 W

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R 111707Z DEC 74

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 246

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T USBERLIN 2264

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, WB, GW

SUBJECT: SENAT VERMERK ON AIR TRANSPORT OF
PRISONERS

REF: USBERLIN 2230

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PROPOSED REPLY TO SENAT
VERMERK AGREED BY US AND UK MISSIONS HERE.
FRENCH SAY THEIR EMB IN BONN IS SO ANNOYED BY TONE OF SENAT
VERMERK (POUCHED BONN AND DEPARTMENT) IS CANNOT AGREE NOW TO
THIS US-UK DRAFT.

BEGIN TEXT

1. THE THREE ALLIED MISSION IN BERLIN HAVE
CAREFULLY CONSIDERED THE SENAT VERMERK HANDED
OVER ON 3 DECEMBER.

2. THE ALLIES WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT
THEY REQUIRE THE MAXIMUS NOTICE POSSIBLE OF ANY
LIKELY SITUATION WHERE A PARTICULAR PRISONER OR
PRISONERS MAY HAVE TO BE MOVED ALONG THE AIR CORRIDORS.

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IT WILL BE APPRECIATED THAT THE ALLIES CANNOT GIVE A

BLANKET ASSURANCE THAT AN AIRCRAFT WILL BE PROVIDED, BUT IF THEY ARE SATISFIED OF THE NEED FOR AIR MOVEMENT THEY WILL DO THEIR UTMOST TO ENSURE THAT AIR TRANSPORT WILL BE AVAILABLE.

3. THE ALLIES SUGGEST THAT THE SENAT SHOULD NOW IN THE FIRST INSTANCE TAKE SOUNDINGS WITH THE CIVIL AIR LINES ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF SUB-CHARTERERS BEING IDENTIFIED AND APPROACHED WHO WOULD BE READY TO FLY SUCH PRISONERS. WE ASSUME THAT, AS IN THE CASE OF FRAU MEINHOF, THE SCHEDULED AND CHARTER LINES SERVING BERLIN WILL NOT BE PREPARED TO MAKE THEIR OWN AEROPLANES AVAILABLE.

4. THE ALLIES WILL HAVE A WORD WITH THE AIRLINES TO ASK THEM TO BE AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE IN IDENTIFYING SUB-CHARTERS.

5. IN THE EVENT OF A SPECIFIC REQUIREMENT THE FOLLOWING ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN:

A. THE SENAT INFORMS THE ALLIED MISSION IN THE CHAIR:

B. THE SENAT APPROACHES THE AIRLINES AND IN PARTICULAR THE SUB-CHARTERERS AND THE ALLIES PROVIDE SUPPORT:

C. IF THE AIRLINES REFUSE THEN THE QUESTION OF PROVIDING MILITARY AIRCRAFT WILL BE CONSIDERED IN THE LIGHT OF THE OVERALL SITUATION AND THE AVAILABILITY OF MILITARY PLANES. IN THE FIRST INSTANCE IT WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CHAIRMAN ALLIED NATION.
END TEXT.

2. ALTHOUGH WE AND BRITISH ALSO RESENT BRUSQUE TONE OF SENAT VERMERK, WE BELIEVE WE CANNOT ESCAPE ULTIMATE ALLIED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SECURITY AND AIR MATTERS, AND MUST FORMULATE SOME WORKABLE SOLUTIONA FOR PROBLEM THAT WILL NOT GO AWAY. WE HAVE REPORT WHICH WE ARE CHECKING THAT FRG INTENDS ANARACHIST PRISONER HORST MAHLER TO BE BROUGHT TO STUTTGART IN EARLY JANUARY.

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BERLIN POLICE WERE UNABLE TO CONFIRM PLANS FOR MAHLER, WHICH WOULD BE RESPONSIBILITY OF SENATOR FOR JUSTICE, BUT POLICE TOLDUS JUSTICE IS NEGOTIATING WITH FEDERAL LAENDER OFFICIALS POSSIBLE TRANSFER FROM BERLIN OF SEVERAL FEMALE REDICAL PRISONERS ON GROUNDS BERLIN'S WOMEN'S PRISON UNABLE TO COPE WITH SO MANY MAXIMUM-SECURITY PRISONERS.SELIGMANN

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